

**45 Springfield Street # 1
Belmont, MA 02478**

January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing this letter to express my opinion about the settlement that has been reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice.

First off, I am NOT 100% in Microsoft's camp. I have tried MANY of their competitors' products: very few are truly better when you take all of the real world factors into consideration. The pattern has been simple all along: Microsoft sees a product in the marketplace, imitates it until it is as good as the competing product, and then (now this is the KEY) they surpass their competitor's product. This is really the driving force behind the technicalities of the lawsuits. You cannot even imagine how much it disgusts me that companies are allowed to sue because another company bettered their product.

If I were Bill Gates, I would be so outraged that I would move Microsoft to Canada. I have consulted for EMC Corporation in Ireland so I know firsthand that the U.S. is losing ground as THE place to be for technology. If our court system continues to allow cases as outrageous as this, no business will want to set up shop here.

Who's going to file a lawsuit next? Palm, Inc.? Well, I'm a registered Palm developer and if they file a lawsuit, guess who will be switching to Windows CE devices?

I obviously think this case should have been thrown out of court on the first day, but since it was not, please just get it over with and APPROVE the settlement. Thanks.

Sincerely,



David M. McNamara